Numb. 4014

The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday April 27. to Monday May 1. 1704.

Warsaw, April 14. N. S.

THE Congress of the Confederated Nobility of Poland has met several times since the 2d instant, but was as often adjourned without doing any Business, because that of all the Members of that Assembly, who went home to their several Palatinates some Weeks ago, so few are returned hither, that not above 7 or 8 have been present at any one of these Meetings; besides that they expect the coming back of the Palatine of Posen, who was sent some time ago to the King of Sweden to desire him to give Orders, That his Forces may demand no more Contributions from the Estates belonging to the Confederates, and to make some Proposals to his Majesty about their entring into a Treaty with him. The Crown-General, and some others of the Confederates have had several Meetings to State the Account of the Arrears due to the Forces of the Crown, in pursuance, as they pretend, of a Resolution of the late Diet at Lublin, That Commissioners should be appointed for that purpose. They concern themselves only with the Accounts of that part of the Army which Adheres to the Confederacy, and expect a considerable Supply of Money from the King of Sweden towards paying them; and the Cardinal Primate has also promised to contribute largely towards it. The Great Marshal, who has the first Rank among the Great Officers of the Crown, arrived here the 9th instant, having quitted the King of Poland's Party, which was a great surprize, the King having always been very liberal of his Favours towards him. The 10th, there came Advice, That Prince Alexander Sobiesky was come to Lowitz, in his way hither, whereupon the Crown-General sent a Troop of Dragoons to attend him as a Guard, and he arrived here yesterday. Letters from the King of Poland's Quarters at Piotrowin of the 4th and 7th instant, bring the following Account of what has passed between his Majesty's Forces and those of the King of Sweden under the Command of General Reinschildt, That on the first instant, this General being informed, That the King of Poland had ordered a Bridge to be laid over the Weissel at Piotrovin, which was to be defended by a Breastwork over against that place, he marched thither with a design to have surprized the King's Army, but his Majesty having notice of it, had caused all his Forces which were on the other side of the River to repass it, and to break down the Bridge, and erect several Batteries on the Banks of the River, from whence they plied the Swedes so warmly, that General Reinschildt was obliged to retire with the loss of 60 Men. This Account is very different from that which we had received before from other Parts, that the Swedes had fallen upon the Saxons so suddenly, that they had not time to repass the River; in the doing of which, and in the Engagement those Advices said there had been between the two Armies, the King had lost 1500 Men; but this uncertainty in our News is no more than what has frequently happened of late, there being no regular Conveyance for Letters in a Country so disordered as this Kingdom is at present. These Letters from the Saxon Camp, add, That on the 3d, the Starost of Pils, who Commands a Body of the King's Troops, had fallen upon some Swedish Forces at Opatow, who were come thither to raise Contributions, and forced them to retire with the loss of 150 Men killed, and some taken Prisoners, (among whom is an Ensign of Colonel Patkul's Regiment) and to leave behind them 100 Waggons, laden with the Plunder they had got in that Place and the Neighbouring Country, which the King had sent him Orders to restore to the Inhabitants. That the Starost of Sanock was come from the Army of Lithuania, to assure his Majesty, That they would forthwith joyn him; for which purpose forty Troops of those Forces, under the Command of Monsieur Baranowitz, were already advanced beyond Wengrow: And that a Deputation was likewise come from the Palatinate of Cujavia, with Assurances of their Resolution to Adhere stedfastly to his Interest. Monsieur Smiegielski, who with a great number of Gentlemen of the Greater Poland, that continue Loyal to their King, has taken up Arms to Revenge the Outrages that have been done them by the Confederates, continues to Plunder their Estates, and has lately seized and disarmed two Troops of Wallachians whom the Crown-General had sent out against them.

Cracow, April 16. On the 9th instant the Castle of Pietrovin, where the King of Poland had his Head-Quarter, was burnt down by some Accident; whereupon His Majesty removed to Coczin, within a League of that Place; but it is believed he will not continue there long, Forage being at present very scarce thereabouts. We hear His Majesty has lately received very considerable Supplies of Money from Muscovy, and is in Expectation of further Assistance from thence.

Dantzick, April 19. The Swedes have marked out the Ground for a Camp near the Monastry of the Cathusians in the Neighbourhood of this Place, where it is supposed a Body of Troops is to be posted to secure the landing of the Forces they expect this Spring from Sweden. According to our last Advices from Warsaw, the King of Poland intended to march with his Army from Coczin to Zarichost; And the Body of Swedish Forces under the